

Message Text

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10

ORIGIN NEA-16

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118318

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR HA

SUBJECT: IRANIAN-HAITIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

REFS: TEHRAN 1555 (NOTAL); TEHRAN 2896

1. IRANIAN DCM MAJD HAS PROVIDED INFORMATION SOMEWHAT AT VARIANCE WITH THAT IN REFTELS. HE SAYS THAT HAITIANS APPROACHED AMB. ZAHEDI TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN OPENING RELATIONS AND PROPOSING VISIT TO TEHRAN BY HAITIAN FONMIN, PROBABLY ACCOMPANIED BY HAITIAN AMB. TO U.S. ZAHEDI REPORTED THIS TO SHAH (MAJD STRESSED THIS CHANNEL USED AND FOREIGN MINISTRY NOT CONSULTED), WHO AGREED TO VISIT AND DISCUSSION OF RELATIONS. FONMIN WOULD ALSO WANT TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC MATTERS.

2. MAJD IMPLIED THAT IN AGREEING TO DISCUSS RELATIONS WITH HAITI SHAH SHOWED NO GREAT ENTHUSIASM FOR PROSPECT.

3. ON BROADER TOPIC OF IRAN'S RAPIDLY EXPANDING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS MAJD NOTED PROBLEM OF SHORTAGE OF EXPERIENCED
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SENIOR AND MIDDLE GRADE DIPLOMATS TO SERVE IN NEW POSTS.

QUOTE FORMER CABINET MINISTERS ARE AVAILABLE TO BE
AMBASSADORS AND WE HAVE PLENTY OF JUNIOR OFFICERS TO DO
ROUTINE JOBS, BUT VERY FEW MID-LEVEL OFFICERS TO SERVE
AS DCM'S AND COUNSELORS. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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